

REMARKS

This Reply is in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 9, 2008 in which claims 34-51 were allowed; in which claims 14 and 27-29 were objected to and in which claims 1-13, 15-26, 30-33, 52 and 53 were rejected. With this response, entry of amendments canceling claims 52 and 53 and incorporating their limitations into their base claims 1 and 22, respectively, are requested. Claims 1-51 are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

I. Examiner Interview Summary

On October 27, 2008, a telephonic interview was held between Examiner Peeso and Applicants' attorney, Todd A. Rathe. The rejection of claim 52 and 53 was discussed. Applicants proposed incorporating the limitations of claims 52 and 53 into independent claims 1 and 22, respectively. Examiner Peeso agreed to review the previous rejection of claim 51 and 52 once again in light of the already indicated allowability of claim 45.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Peeso for the opportunity to discuss the rejection.

II. Rejection of claims 1-5, 10, 11, 15-23, 30-33, 52 and 53 under 35 USC 102(b) based upon Rourke

Page 2 of the Office Action rejected claims 1-5, 10, 11, 15-23, 30-33, 52 and 53 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Rourke US Patent 5077795. Claims 52 and 53 are canceled with their limitations incorporated into base claims 1 and 22, respectively. Claims 1-5, 10, 11, 15-23 and 30-33, as amended, overcome the rejection.

Claim 1 and 22, as amended, each recites that the authorization granting interface remains coupled to unused portions of the consumable resource upon withdrawal of the unused portions of the consumable resource from the image forming device.

Rourke fails to disclose such an authorization granting interface. In fact, the Office Action presumably acknowledges this fact by its already indicated allowability of claim 45.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 22, as amended, overcome the rejection based upon Rourke. Claims 2-5, 10, 11, 15- 21, 23 and 30-33, depend from claims 1 and 22 and overcome the rejection for at least the same reasons.

III. Conclusion

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-51 are now pending in this application.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2025. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 08-2025. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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